

NOTICE OF SUPPLEMENTAL PROPOSED RULEMAKING

TITLE 7. EDUCATION

CHAPTER 2. STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

ARTICLE 6 – CERTIFICATION

PREAMBLE

1. Register citation and date for the original Notice of Proposed Rulemaking:

Notice of Docket Opening: Volume 10 A.A.R., Page #1627, April 23, 2004

Notice of Proposed Rulemaking: Volume 10 A.A.R., Page #1580, April 23, 2004

2. Section Affected: Rulemaking Action:

R7-2-615

Amend

3. The statutory authority for the rulemaking, including both the authorizing statute (general) and the statutes the rules are implementing (specific):

Authorizing statute: A.R.S. §15-203(A)

Implementing statute: A.R.S. §15-203(A)(19) also A.R.S. §32-2075(A)(1)

4. The name and address of agency personnel with whom persons may communicate regarding the rule:

Name: Vince Yanez, Executive Director, Arizona State Board of Education

Address: 1535 W. Jefferson
Phoenix, Arizona 85007

Telephone: (602) 542-5057

Fax: (602) 542-3046

5. An explanation of the rule, including the agency's reasons for initiating the rule:

Current Board Rules do not clearly require a person employed as a school psychologist to maintain a valid school psychologist certificate, although A.R.S. §32-2075(A)(1) exempts school psychologists from being licensed by the State Board of

Psychological Examiners and charges the Arizona Department of Education with administering their certificates. The proposed rules provide consistency with state statute, making it clear that it is a requirement for school psychologists to hold a valid school psychologist certification issued by the State Board of Education. The proposed rules also address several recommendations from the school psychologist industry, including modifying the current practicum of 1000 hours to be replaced with a supervised internship of at least 1200 clock hours, including a minimum of 600 clock hours in a school setting. This increase in hours makes Arizona certification consistent with the national standard. Representatives from the school psychology field, specifically the Arizona Association of School Psychologists, have reported that the term "practicum" in school psychology programs has another meaning and the term "internship" more appropriately describes the requirement referred to in our rules. These rules also address the current school psychologist shortage by establishing a new intern psychologist certificate which allows individuals who are re-specializing to enter the workplace; the definition and eligibility requirements for this intern certificate are similar to the existing teacher intern certificate. In addition, the proposed rules expand the eligible pool of candidates for school psychologist positions by permitting a Nationally Certified School Psychologist Credential or Certification by the American Board of School Psychology to be substituted for the completion of a school psychology program.

6. An explanation of the substantial changes that resulted in this supplemental notice:

The explanations below identify changes to the Notice of Proposed Rulemaking published in the Arizona Administrative Code on April 23, 2004.

The existing rules include a requirement for an individual to complete a graduate program in school psychology consisting of at least sixty graduate semester hours to be eligible for a school psychologist certificate. These Supplemental Rules provide an alternative option to this requirement, allowing an individual to substitute completion of a doctoral program in psychology and a re-training program in school psychology to be eligible.

The existing rules allow an individual to substitute a valid school psychologist certificate from another state in place of completion of a graduate program in school psychology. These Supplemental Rules add an additional requirement for applicants with valid school psychologist certificates from another state, requiring five years experience working full time as a school psychologist in addition to the valid certificate.

The Proposed Rules required either a Class 1 or Class 2 Fingerprint Clearance Card. These Supplemental Rules conform to current statutory language and require a Fingerprint Clearance Card and clarify that this card is issued by the Department of Public Safety.

These Supplemental Rules also contain additional technical and conforming changes.

7. A showing of good cause why the rule is necessary to promote a statewide interest if the rule will diminish a previous grant of authority of a political subdivision of this state:

The rule will not diminish a previous grant of authority of a political subdivision of this state. The proposed rules will require that school districts employ individuals with a school psychologists' certificate to perform school psychologist responsibilities.

8. The preliminary summary of the economic, small business, and consumer impact:

The rules as proposed are not expected to have significant, if any, economic impact on small businesses. By establishing the school psychologist intern certificate, it is anticipated that these rules may increase the pool of available school psychologists, thereby potentially lowering costs to schools and school districts.

9. The name and address of agency personnel with whom persons may communicate regarding the accuracy of the economic, small business, and consumer impact statement:

Name: Vince Yanez, Executive Director, State Board of Education

Address: 1535 W. Jefferson
Phoenix, AZ 85007

Telephone: (602) 542-5057

Fax: (602) 542-3046

10. The time, place, and nature of the proceedings for the making, amendment, or repeal of the rule or, if no proceeding is scheduled, where, when, and how persons may request an oral proceeding on the proposed rule:

Date: No proceedings are currently scheduled. Persons may submit written comments, or a written request for an oral proceeding, by contacting the individual listed in number 9, above.

Time: Through the close of business on April 7, 2005.

Location: See number 9, above.

Nature: Only written comments and written requests for oral proceedings will be accepted.

Close of record: N/A

11. Any other matters prescribed by statutes that are applicable to the specific agency or to any specific rule or class of rules:

None.

12. Incorporations by reference and their location in the rules:

None.

13. The full text of the changes follow:

R7-2-615. Other Professional Certificates

- A. All certificates are subject to the general certification provisions in R7-2-607 and the renewal requirements in R7-2-617.
- B. Guidance Counselor Certificate -- grades K-12
 - 1. The guidance counselor certificate is valid for six years.
 - 2. The requirements are:
 - a. A Master's or more advanced degree;
 - b. Completion of a graduate program in guidance and counseling. A valid guidance counselor certificate from another state may substitute for this requirement;
 - c. A valid Class 1 or Class 2 fingerprint clearance card; and
 - d. One of the following:
 - i. Completion of a supervised counseling practicum in school counseling;
 - ii. Two years of verified, full-time experience as a school guidance counselor; or
 - iii. Three years of verified teaching experience.
- C. School Psychologist Certificate -- grades Prekindergarten-12
 - 1. A school psychologist certificate is required for all personnel whose primary responsibility is in the role of a school psychologist providing services, that include but are not limited to, the duties of student psychoeducational assessment, therapeutic consultation and intervention, and involvement in the process of determination of student disabilities or disorders.

4.2. The school psychologist certificate is valid for six years.

2.3. The requirements are:

- a. A Master's or more advanced degree;
- b. Completion of a graduate program in school psychology consisting of at least 60 graduate semester hours, or a completion of a doctoral program in psychology and completion of a re-training program in school psychology from an accredited institution or Board approved program with a letter of institutional endorsement from the head of the school psychology program;
- c. A ~~practicum~~ supervised internship of at least ~~1,000~~1200-clock hours with a minimum of 600 of those hours in a school setting. Three years experience as a certified school psychologist may be substituted for the internship requirement; and
- d. A valid ~~Class 1 or Class 2~~ fingerprint clearance card issued by the Arizona Department of Public Safety.

3.4. A valid school psychologist certificate from another state and five years experience working full time in the capacity of a school psychologist in a school setting serving any portion of grades kindergarten through twelve, or a Nationally Certified School Psychologist Credential or Certification by the American Board of School Psychology may be substituted for the completion of a program described in subsection (C)(23)(b).

D. Arizona School Psychologist Intern Certificate (SPIC) - grades Pre-kindergarten-12

1. The certificate is valid for two years and is not renewable.

2. The intern certificate entitles the holder to perform intern school psychologist duties in whatever capacity or grade levels assigned by personnel in subsection (4) of this section.
3. The requirements are:

 - a. Current enrollment in an accredited school psychology preparation program;
 - b. Verification of enrollment in an accredited school psychology program signed by the dean of a college of education or the administrator of a Board-approved school psychology preparation program; and
 - c. A valid Class 1 or Class 2 fingerprint clearance card.
4. The holder shall be under the direct supervision of college and certified school personnel, including a school or school district-based certified school psychologist who holds a valid Arizona School Psychologist Certificate.